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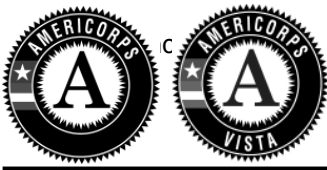
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# Arts for All, Inc

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

To provide accessible education, training, and experience in the Arts to children, particularly those with special needs.

Arts for All, Inc., a non-profit corporation, began in August of 1985 by Marcia Berger, in an effort to provide an after-school program in the performing arts for children with disabilities. The students, ages 3 through adulthood, come from throughout the greater Tucson, Arizona area. All aspects of the program exemplify integration for children with and without disabilities. Arts for All, Inc. currently provides special considerations during the planning and programming for persons with physical disabilities, visual limitations, hearing impairments, learning disabilities, mental retardation, emotional disturbances, mental illness, behavior problems, autism, and seizure disorders. All programs attempt to provide a quality art focus for children and youth with and without disabilities.

Arts for All, Inc. currently has:

**AmeriCorps** – AmeriCorps State members receive invaluable career-enhancing experience while serving at Arts for All. They receive intensive training in direct care services, disabilities, citizenship, ASL and accessibility.

**AmeriCorps\*VISTA** – Two positions with VISTA include Outreach coordinator and fiscal resource coordinator. These assist in sustainability of the organization.

### Programs at Arts for All, Inc.

**After-School Classes**—Classes in dance, drama, art, ceramics and music.

**Summer/Winter Arts Camps**—Summer Arts Camp runs for 12 weeks during summer vacation, and Winter Arts Camp runs for two weeks during the December vacation. Classes in dance, drama, music, art and ceramics are held. Weekly performances and residencies by artists.

**Arts-based Preschool**—Tucson's only arts-based preschool. A flexible daily schedule with open centers and teacher-led activities fill the day.

**Day Program** – Persons with disabilities enjoy the uniqueness of merging Arts and Human Services through art, ceramics, dance, drama and music.

**Community-Wide Public Performances** – Arts for All stages three major community theatre productions each season. Young performers, ages 8- 18, with all levels of abilities come from throughout the greater Tucson area to audition and work with theatre professionals.

**Arts for All Presents** – This project brings nationally and internationally known artists to Tucson for residencies, workshops and master classes.

**Third St. Ensemble Company** – Children, teens and young adults audition for participation in the internationally known performing company. This company allows young performers, with and without disabilities, to learn about dance, drama and music and to participate in stage productions.

**Support Services** – Services such as respite, attendant care and transportation make it possible for persons with disabilities to participate fully in all arts activities.

**Inclusion Aides Training** – This 50-hour training program prepares inclusion aides to work with children and adults with disabilities and to integrate them into community activities and the Arts.





# Bringing Service Home AmeriCorps

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

The mission of the University of Arizona is "To discover, educate, serve, and inspire." Bringing Service Home places returned Peace Corps Volunteers, who are in graduate school, in community-based internships that provide service-based learning and scholarly engagement while meeting critical needs of the community.

### Vision

We envision involving University of Arizona students, alumni and friends in an expanded view of service in relation to scholarly engagement. The work of AmeriCorps members in the community benefits underserved communities and provides opportunities to bring home the understanding of other cultures. We are placing AmeriCorps members in agencies to meet environmental, health and nutrition, and housing needs of the community.

### History

The University of Arizona Peace Corps Fellows/USA program was established in 2000 and has provided 80,000 hours of service while supporting 95 Peace Corps Fellows in graduate school. We have partnered with 100 non-profits and governmental agencies in the community. This year, the program includes 57 Peace Corps Fellows, twenty of whom are AmeriCorps members. The program has allowed us to expand to include non-students and undergraduates.

### University of Arizona Bringing Service Home Programs

Our program focuses on placing half-time members in partner agencies including:

- Arizona Cooperative Extension – nutrition and watershed steward
- Bureau of Land Management – FireWise education
- CEDO – educational programs in southern Arizona
- City of South Tucson – planning, crisis management training and community policing and prevention
- Drachman Institute – low-income housing
- Tucson Community Food Bank Food Security Program – mobile markets and evaluation of programs
- Happy Times Children's Center, Douglas – providing early learning and respite care with a focus on school preparedness
- House of Neighborly Service after school tutoring and literacy
- Housing Authority of Cochise County
- The Partnership – community-based prevention
- Pima County Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation
- San Pedro and Santa Cruz Natural Resources Conservation Districts – determining the effects of recharge on the streambed
- Sonoran Institute – volunteers remove invasive weeds
- United Way – VITA Tax Program, domestic violence prevention
- Water Resources Center – Sustainable Tucson, Project Wet

### Academic Programs

Members are working on graduate degrees in Hydrology, Landscape Architecture, Language Reading and Culture, Public Administration and Policy, Public Health, Watershed Management, and Wildlife Management. Members serve in 900-hour internships while in school.

### Professional Development and Mentoring

Members meet monthly for training, professional development and mentoring opportunities. Programs this year included conflict resolution and management, presentations, working in the non-profit sector, and other programs. Training has included CPR and Disaster

### Service

Members complete a volunteer service activity each semester.



# Coconino Rural Environment Corps AmeriCorps

## Flagstaff, AZ

### Mission

The Coconino Rural Environment Corps promotes stewardship by implementing a variety of conservation and service initiatives; encourages personal development through a combination of work experience, training and educational opportunities; and carries on the tradition of the Civilian Conservation Corps with hard work, dedication and pride.

### Vision

Conservation leadership and the future of land stewardship are the responsibilities of today's youth and young adults.

### History

CREC was founded in 1997 as a joint project of the USDA Forest Service and Coconino County. After two years, the program went through a transition and became the exclusive responsibility of Coconino County Community Services, where it resides today. The environmental conservation/land stewardship program serves youth, aged 16 to 18, and young adults, aged 18 to 25, who are interested in land management and conservation-related careers. Through direct, hands-on service, CREC corps members implement projects for virtually all of Arizona's public land managers. All members receive extensive work skills training and conservation education in addition to the service learning that will directly benefit their future in land management. Their project work helps to protect rural communities throughout northern Arizona and across the state from the threat of wildfire; increases habitat for, and the populations of, a variety of wildlife species; and provides improved and less damaging recreational opportunities for Arizona's citizens and visitors.

### Projects

- Restoring wildlife habitat
- Trail construction and maintenance
- Forest restoration/wildfire fuels reduction
- Construction and maintenance of fences and other facilities
- Surveying and eradicating exotic plant species
- Conducting ecological testing and monitoring
- Surveying and monitoring using GPS technology
- Leading volunteers and Youth Conservation Corps crews
- Maintaining public parks, campgrounds and recreation areas
- Archeological/paleontological surveys and excavations
- Historical preservation
- Community service

### Partners

- State of Arizona
  - Game and Fish Department
  - State Lands Department
  - Arizona State Parks
- National Park Service
  - Colorado Plateau Exotic Plant Management Team
  - Flagstaff Area National Monuments
  - Grand Canyon National Park
  - Petrified Forest National Park
  - Lake Mead National Recreation Area
- USDA Forest Service
  - Kaibab National Forest
  - Coconino National Forest
  - Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest
  - Tonto National Forest
  - Prescott National Forest
  - Coronado National Forest
- Local Fire Departments
  - Flagstaff Fire Department
  - Highlands Fire Department
  - Summit Fire Department
  - Parks-Bellemont/Williams Fire Departments
- Bureau of Land Management
- Northern Arizona University
  - Ecological Restoration Institute
  - Centennial Forest
- City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation
- Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership



# Guadalupe YYAP AmeriCorps

## Guadalupe, AZ

### Mission

The Guadalupe Youth and Young Adult Programs will provide a nurturing environment for Guadalupe youth and young adults. It will combine this with education, life and leadership skills, job readiness and community services.

### Vision

The Guadalupe Youth and Young Adult Programs will help foster a rise in the spirit of volunteerism within the community of Guadalupe starting with our members. We will build 12 energy-friendly homes for the senior/disabled low-income residents of this community. We will increase the educational gains of YYAP members.

### History

The Guadalupe Youth and Young Adult Programs have been engaging and empowering youth and young adults within the Guadalupe community for eight years. We have worked with youth ages 6 to 24 to support and promote educational gains, life and leadership skills, career readiness, community service projects and construction skills.

Guadalupe YYAP and community residents have built 26 energy-efficient homes for senior/disabled low-income residents. Our YouthBuild program earned a HUD 'Best Practices' award in 2000. Eighteen members have earned their GED.

AmeriCorps members have supported and sponsored the growth of young minds in the Town of Guadalupe through service projects, tutoring, prevention education and more.

### Guadalupe YYAP AmeriCorps Programs

- **Youth Volunteer Service Corps.** This program offers youth ages 6 to 15 in the Town of Guadalupe an after-school and summer program. The program comprises fun activities for youth, community service activities, education enrichment, prevention programs and character building. This program uses the SMART Moves and Character Counts curriculum in daily activities.
- **YouthBuild, USA.** This program provides youth ages 16 – 24 the opportunity to learn marketable construction skills while benefiting the community. Members of YouthBuild construct homes for senior/disabled and low-income residents of Guadalupe. In addition, Members prepare for their GEDs, and learn life skills that will benefit them in the future.
- **Guadalupe Neighborhood Computer Center.** This program provides the community with access to a computer lab, complete with 10 desktop units and 10 mobile laptops. AmeriCorps members within the program provide technological assistance to community members and offer a wide range of computer courses.
- **Tutoring.** This program works with the YVC to provide tutoring and homework help to youth in need. Youth are referred to the tutors by parents, community members, school officials and themselves. The tutors utilize the Put Reading First, STRONG and America Reads with youth in need of assistance.
- **St. James Reading Program.** This program provides much-needed reading assistance for the young residents of Guadalupe. AmeriCorps members from this program utilize the Put Reading First and America Reads curriculum in addition to supplementing other proven methods of increasing reading scores.



# Pima Adult and Family Literacy Corps

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

Family Literacy AmeriCorps will strengthen families through service, building a more literate community through the fundamental principle, "Teach the parent, reach the child."

### Vision

Family Literacy AmeriCorps envisions a community where Members provide service in multiple sites throughout Pima County. AmeriCorps Members will fulfill the mission of building a more literate community by supporting individuals and families in developing their highest potential and breaking through the intergenerational cycle of poverty and low literacy.

### History

Family Literacy AmeriCorps was established in 1994 and soon became an instrumental component of the Family Literacy Program. In the inaugural year, eight AmeriCorps members were placed in five Family Literacy sites. Over the last twelve years, Family Literacy AmeriCorps has expanded into fifteen sites and has enrolled 123 AmeriCorps members currently serving in four Adult Education Learning Centers and eleven Family Literacy sites in the Sahuarita, Amphitheater, Sunnyside, and Tucson Unified School Districts.

- **Adult Education Classes.** For more than 30 years, Pima Community College Adult Education has played a major role in raising the education level of the community. Quality instruction and a dedicated staff have reached adults who need basic skills to succeed in higher education and advanced work training. Find Adult Education offerings at these Pima College Learning Centers: **Eastside Learning Center:** 520-881-5520, **El Pueblo Learning Center:** 520-889-9962, **El Rio Learning Center:** 520-882-0940 **Lindsey Learning Center:** 520-884-8628.
- **Family Literacy Project**
- In the Family Literacy Project, the entire family learns. Parents work toward earning a GED, speaking better English, getting job skills and improving parenting skills. They and their children participate in educational activities. Pima College works with the Amphitheater, Sunnyside and Tucson Unified School Districts and Child/Parent Centers, Inc. - Head Start at locations throughout Tucson. Contact the Family Literacy Program (520-741-7175) for more information.
- **Civics/Citizenship Program**  
Immigrants prepare for citizenship and community involvement. Students register to vote and learn leadership skills and issues analysis. They get opportunities for extensive community involvement through student councils. Contact the Lindsey Learning Center (520-884-8628) for more information.
- **Project RAISE**  
Adults with developmental disabilities take classes in basic reading and math, computer skills, art and creative movement. The Arizona Department of Economic Security refers potential students. Art students present public performances and exhibits. Contact the Eastside Learning Center (520-881-5520) for more information.
- **Refugee Education Project**  
Refugees in over 12 language groups currently participate in English classes and participate in vocational opportunities. Pima College coordinates Southern Arizona refugee activities with the Arizona Department of Economic Security. Contact the Eastside Learning Center (520-881-5520) for more information.
- **Workplace Education Project**  
Workers take basic skills classes that are tailored to the needs of specific employers. Classes are offered at employer sites. Contact the Lindsey Learning Center (520-884-8628) for more information.



# Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP) AmeriCorps Project

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

Building partnerships with young people, families, and communities to improve their quality of life.

### Vision

The PPP AmeriCorps program works with people residing, going to school, and/or working in the 85705 zip code area to support individual and family economic stability, improve safety, and reduce crime.

The PPP AmeriCorps program builds partnerships with neighborhood associations, faith-based organizations, government entities, businesses, and schools that result in collaborative projects to improve the local quality of life.

### History

Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP) is a community-based, non-profit organization established in 1991 by a multicultural coalition of leaders from local and county governments, human services, Native American tribes, law enforcement, business, and grassroots community groups.

Currently PPP employs more than 80 full- and part-time employees who serve in four departments: Youth and Family Services, Clinical Services, Academic Services, Technical Services, and Administration. Through these departments and their professional staffs, PPP is able to serve local and state constituencies with a wide range of prevention, skill building, youth development, youth treatment, academic education, community development, grant writing and program evaluation services.

Community service and civic involvement are hallmarks of PPP's programs. For example, youth volunteers serving PPP's Pima County Teen Court program have contributed more than 12,000 hours of service during the past twelve years. Furthermore, Pima Partnership High School, which is operated by PPP, requires students to contribute 90 hours of community service to graduate.

To this end, PPHS teachers facilitate student advisory groups to identify, plan, and execute an annual service project. The PPP AmeriCorps project expands PPP's capacity to serve the needs of the local community through collaborative projects to increase economic stability, improve safety, and reduce crime.

### PPP AmeriCorps Projects

- **Public Safety**

AmeriCorps members are working with neighborhood associations, faith-based groups, government, schools and colleges, and businesses to conduct community service activities. These efforts lead to decreased crime and increased economic sufficiency of people who reside, work, or go to school in the 85705 zip code area. Sample projects include neighborhood clean ups, sidewalk house numbering, community crime prevention events, basic house repairs to prevent crime, and graffiti abatement.

- **Economic Self-sufficiency**

AmeriCorps members are positioned to support students' academic education.

- **Student Internships**

Members are working with the Career and Technical Education teacher to develop job sites for student internships and provide job coaching. In addition, this Member helps maintain the Career and Technical education files and databases.

- **Volunteers Program:**

An AmeriCorps member is helping to develop an agency-wide volunteer program, including updating volunteer recruitment and selection policies and practices, training materials, scheduling protocols, and creating recognition events.



Youth in Action AmeriCorps  
Northern Arizona University  
P.O. Box 6025  
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-6025  
928-523-9043

# Youth in Action AmeriCorps

## Flagstaff, AZ

### Mission

Youth in Action AmeriCorps delivers a quality program that provides service opportunities where individuals develop valuable skills and professional experiences that directly benefit our community.

### Vision

Youth in Action AmeriCorps builds a strong community through commitment to positive and active citizenship.

### History

Youth in Action is a greater Flagstaff Community Joint Agency Youth Service Initiative designed to provide a mechanism for participating agencies and organizations to pool resources and maximize services and opportunities for youth and young adults. Youth in Action will facilitate coordinated, proactive solutions to the youth-oriented problems facing the greater Flagstaff community through better coordination of services, enhancement of current programs, and development of new programs.

Youth in Action began in 1994 and is one of the longest-running and largest AmeriCorps Programs in Arizona. We are in our thirteenth year and are using the wisdom of a long-standing program to better serve our Members and the community.

### Youth in Action AmeriCorps Service Sites

In 2006, Youth in Action AmeriCorps will place 65 AmeriCorps Members at 29 different service sites. Our service sites fall under three main categories: Tutoring and Mentoring, Community Improvement, and Public Safety/Environment Protection.

#### Tutoring & Mentoring

- America Reads
- Killip Family Literacy
- Leupp Family Literacy Program
- Literacy Volunteers of Coconino County
- Lura Kinsey Community School
- Native Americans for Community Action, Adult Education
- Pine Forest Charter School

#### Community Improvement

- American Legion
- American Red Cross
- Camp Civitan
- City of Flagstaff, Mayor's Office
- Coconino County Board of Supervisors
- Coconino County Community Services
- Flagstaff Cultural Partners
- Flagstaff YMCA
- FUSD Health Services
- Grand Canyon Youth & YVC
- Kinship Kare
- Northern Arizona Regional Gerontology Institute
- Northland Family Help Center
- Non Profit Resource Center
- Parenting Arizona

#### Public Safety & Environment Protection

- American Conservation Experience
- Arboretum at Flagstaff
- Colton Community Garden
- Summit Fire District
- Willow Bend Environmental Education Center





# Youth Now! Collaboration

## Tucson, AZ

### **Mission**

The Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona (VCSOAZ) strengthens communities by mobilizing people and resources to develop creative solutions to community problems. Youth Now! is a collaboration of the Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona, United Way and six other partner agencies. The vision of the Youth Now! Collaboration is a community that is invested in its youth and committed to their successful development into productive, contributing adults.

### **Vision**

Our goal is to engage volunteers of all ages, including young people themselves, to enhance meaningful out-of-school activities for children and youth, and improve early childhood literacy programs.



### **Meeting Community Needs**

#### **Methodology**

The Youth Now! is focused on two critical community issues related to children and youth: school dropout rates and risky behaviors. The diverse programs of the eight Youth Now! partners use four fundamental strategies in an effort to steer children and youth toward the path of productivity and involvement and away from illiteracy and destructive behavior. Those strategies are:

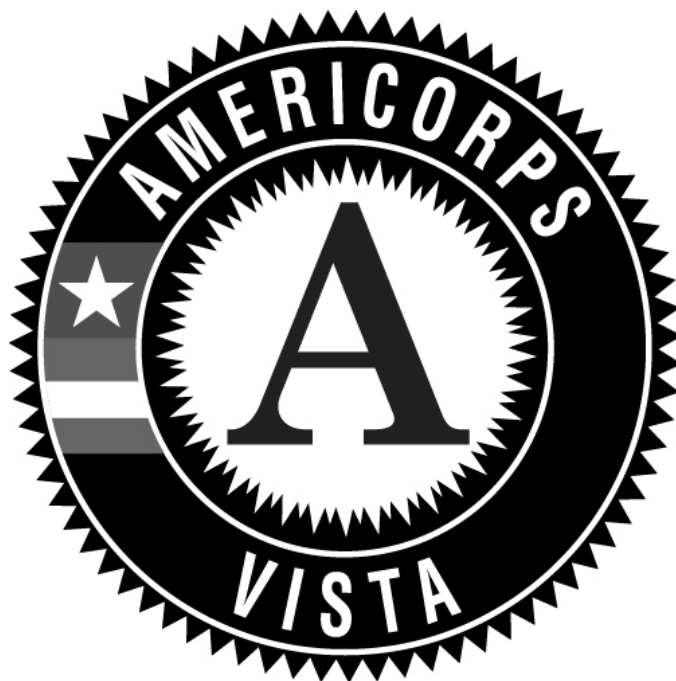
- 1) To improve early childhood literacy rates by promoting greater community investment in our youth through adult volunteerism;
- 2) To educate and engage youth in community issues using a service learning model; and
- 3) To increase the capacity and quality of meaningful out-of-school activities for children and youth.

#### **What do AmeriCorps Members Do?**

Youth Now! AmeriCorps members perform three primary roles:

- 1) Serve as team leaders to engage youth volunteers in service learning projects;
- 2) Facilitate the Volunteer Center's youth leadership program; and
- 3) Recruit and manage volunteers at partner sites to expand capacity and improve the quality of services to children and youth. The Volunteer Center shares its service learning expertise with each partner, collaborating to develop quality service learning projects as appropriate at host sites. Members at all sites are trained in service learning design and implementation. Youth served at the host sites are invited to apply to the Greater Tucson Youth Leadership Program and members at host sites will have the opportunity to assist that program as mentors and team leaders. Volunteer recruitment and management is an integral role that AmeriCorps members will play at every site. The Members use the Volunteer Center's sophisticated volunteer recruitment and management tools, and their host sites will be integrated into the Center's overall volunteer recruitment strategy.

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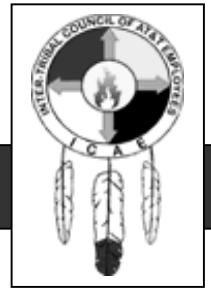
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# Arizona State University

## Mission

Our programs are aimed at addressing the issue of low college enrollment among Native Americans, with the ultimate goal of reducing poverty. By some estimates, over a lifetime of work, college graduates can earn an average of one million dollars more than people with only a high school diploma. Therefore, increasing the number of college-educated Native Americans will gradually lead to a decline in poverty among that population.

## Goal

Our goal is to raise the students' comfort level with the idea of going to college and planning for a career. We hope that, over time, increasing numbers of Native American students will apply for college with the goals in mind that will motivate them complete college. Graduates gain the necessary skill sets to work as upper managers in their own Tribal businesses, or to succeed in whatever career path they desire.

## History

ASU for Arizona was created to develop stronger ties between Arizona State University and Arizona's communities, including the state's Native American reservations. ASU for Arizona gives particular attention to communities with significant low-income populations. We work through a variety of means to re-invest ASU's knowledge capital back to Arizona. The program was started in 1999 as Building Great Communities and became ASU for Arizona in 2004, when its mission expanded from central Phoenix to the whole of Arizona.

## Office of Public Affairs Projects

**AmeriCorps\*VISTA** provides full-time members to work on such programs as College Fest and Inspiring Voices. Both of these programs are aimed at current American Indian middle school students.

**College Fest** was started by ASU students in 2004 with the goal of preparing the next generation of students for college, focusing specifically on middle school students on American Indian reservations. To date, College Fest has served Navajo, Hopi, White Mountain Apache, San Carlos Apache, Pascua Yaqui, Pima and Maricopa students. Through College Fest, ASU students, faculty and staff reach out to students across Arizona to help them understand the benefits of going to college. They prepare students for obstacles along the way, describe the range of career and higher education options available to them, and try to give them a glimpse of the trials and triumphs that college students experience. College Fest travels to populations that have historically lower college matriculation rates in Arizona and offers them a day of games, workshops, and interactive activities. In addition to focusing on the educational progress of students, College Fest encourages the students' parents and relatives to observe and participate in the activities. Using these tactics, the program hopes to educate both students and the community about the importance of early preparation for higher education.

**Inspiring Voices** is a day devoted to encouraging youth to think about what inspires them, by meeting young professionals who are inspired about their own careers. Our goal is to encourage students to pursue careers that will not just be a means to earn money, but also a way to have a meaningful life. The day includes guided self-exploration with the youth using the University of Minnesota's Expanding the Circle Curriculum, followed by lunch and two to three speakers who discuss their careers and the path that led to their vocations.

**Club ASU** invites all students, grades 7-12, and their families to attend special club-sponsored events, programs, and activities. It's an opportunity to explore athletics, the arts, and cultural and educational events at Arizona State University up close and personal! It's also a way to excite young people about higher education, and to get connected with ASU.

Sponsored by:





# AZ ElderBuilders

## Catholic Community Services of So. AZ

### Mission

ElderBuilders staff and volunteers work to create collaborative community partnerships dedicated to providing supportive services to, by, and for rural elders, disabled adults, and their families, in order to maintain independence, enhance dignity, and improve quality of life.

### Vision

AZ ElderBuilders envisions a community that is inclusive and connected, utilizing and inspiring its citizens to care for one another through a continuous cycle of reciprocity that is based on the strengths and gifts of individuals.

### History

Arizona is a retirement state. Many people move to our rural areas because the "living is easy" and the "price is right." In just a few years they find their expenses rising, their health deteriorating, and their family support system thousands of miles away. The AZ ElderBuilders Project was established in 1998 to bridge the gap in health and human services for rural elders. Since that time, ElderBuilders has established 3 interfaith coalitions, 4 adult day centers, and home health services across five Arizona counties. In 2003, ElderBuilders was featured in the International Journal of Humanities & Peace as an innovative program that is about people helping people.

### AmeriCorps\*VISTA Programs and the Corporation for National and Community Service

- **Faith In Action—AmeriCorps VISTA Project**

Purpose: To establish sustainable services that increase access to health and human services for low-income, rural and chronically ill elders. Since 2001, several innovative programs have been developed, including a **Transportation Network** to get elders to the doctor and the grocery store, a **Home Safety Program** that places emergency response units in the home, and a **Prescription Assistance Program** that helps low-income seniors get their medications at no cost.

- **Ageless Enterprise—AmeriCorps\*VISTA Economic Development Project**

Purpose: To reduce poverty among seniors living in six rural Arizona Counties. Since 2003, using a strengths-based approach, VISTA Volunteers and Community Action teams work with local elder service providers to assess and engage the skills and interests of older residents, resulting in a larger senior workforce. The **Ageless Enterprise 'Online Catalog'** offers a unique shopping experience. [www.agelessenterprise.net](http://www.agelessenterprise.net)

- **Homeland Security Special Volunteers Project**

AZ ElderBuilders staff and volunteers work in cooperation with local emergency professionals, FEMA, Medical Reserve Corps, nonprofit agencies, law enforcement officials, Citizen Corps Councils, CERT Teams, and other community-based organizations to:

- 1) Develop a comprehensive community education plan that will familiarize 100% of the citizens with their local and state emergency plans.
- 2) Promote disaster response strategies targeting rural "persons living with disabilities."
- 3) Recruit volunteers willing to help raise community awareness about emergency preparedness through education, public forums, and distribution of information. We have recruited almost 1,000 volunteers who have agreed to share disaster preparation information with their friends, family, and neighbors.

AZ Elderbuilders offer workshops, including: Community Emergency Response Teams (24-hour FEMA Certificate; disaster preparedness for home, auto, and pets; documenting your personal property; and disaster preparedness for persons living with disabilities and other individuals with special needs.

Our Motto: Disaster preparedness is a simple process...Just do it one step at a time!



# Big Brothers Big Sisters of NEAZ

## Show Low, Arizona

### Mission

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Arizona is to make a positive difference in the lives of children in Northeastern Arizona, through professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships, and to assist them in achieving their highest potential as they grow to become caring, competent and confident people.

### Goal

The goal of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Arizona is to develop the resources, environment, and mechanisms to provide successful mentoring partnerships for children and to contribute to better schools, brighter futures, and stronger communities.

### History

In February 1997, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Arizona (BBBS NEAZ) gained the status of a 501(c)3 non-profit community organization. Currently, we serve over 600 children who represent diversity in age, ethnicity, and family status. Our programs are designed to adapt to the communities needs/desires. In 2004, we expanded into Apache County. BBBS NEAZ has been recognized for quality programs by local and national entities such as Northern Arizona Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (BBBSA).



Big Brothers Big Sisters of  
Northeastern Arizona

*"Little Moments. Big Magic."*

### BBBS NEAZ's AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Members will focus on Resource and Community development. Their projects may include developing and implementing volunteer recruitment plans, creating and coordinating fundraising projects, and researching and submitting new grants.

The **AmeriCorps\*VISTA** members will allow expansion of services to both Navajo and Apache Counties by incorporating each community's uniqueness and examination of their needs. Our VISTA members will work closely with the communities to expand opportunities in ways that can ensure a continuum of programs and increased support. As such, VISTA members will be instrumental in developing mechanisms necessary to sustain this project well into the future.



Concho CAN!  
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[conchocan@frontiernet.net](mailto:conchocan@frontiernet.net)

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# Concho CAN!

## Concho, AZ

### Mission

Concho CAN! is dedicated to helping Concho become a “**Community for All Ages**,” using strategies that support families and individuals across their life span, that provide opportunities for lifelong learning and civic engagement, and that promote cross-generation interaction.

### Goal

The goal of Concho CAN! is to develop resources within our community to provide opportunities for enriching the lives of all members in ways that promote the health of individuals, the community, and the environment, and that ensure a sustainable future.

### History

In 2004, a small group of concerned Concho residents banded together to address the severe lack of infrastructure and resources in their community. Through perseverance, Concho CAN! (Concho Community Action Network) was born and became a 501(c)3 nonprofit community development organization in July of 2004. With financial assistance from the Arizona Community Foundation and guidance from BBBS NEAZ, the Concho Activity Center was established.

The efforts of Concho CAN! have resulted in bringing our community together through the creation of programs, services, activities, and community-wide events that never before existed in Concho.

### Concho CAN!'s AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Volunteers' focus is on resource development and community outreach. Projects will include the development of a youth leadership program, a volunteer recruitment and training program, the research of sustainable construction practices and products, community improvements, and grant writing.

**AmeriCorps VISTA** members will work closely with community members and stakeholders to develop the four pillars of community:

- leadership
- entrepreneurship
- youth
- philanthropy

This will allow Concho to grow and prosper in ways that support quality of life for members of all ages and ethnicities.

As such, VISTA members will foster greater community cohesion and be instrumental in developing mechanisms necessary to move the project forward and sustain its future.

**Community Action  
Network**

Concho CAN

1660 S. Alma School  
Road  
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## GROWING FAAST:

*EXPANDING SERVICE DELIVERY TO CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE*

### Mission

**Foster Angels of Arizona Serving Together, Inc. (FAAST)** helps school-aged foster youth and young adults to achieve academic success by providing mentoring programs and by developing a network of community partnerships that support youth in making a successful transition to adulthood.

### Service population

There are over 10,000 youth in Arizona's foster care system, with nearly 6,000 in Maricopa County alone. These children enter the system as a result of physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse; abandonment; neglect; or the death or incarceration of their parents. Although youth in foster care have been removed from the immediate danger that necessitated state intervention, foster youth often face new challenges to well being once they enter the notoriously overburdened system.

### History

FAAST was established in September 2000 by a group of foster parents who came together with the goal of enriching the lives of foster children, and we are committed to providing opportunities that will help foster children break the cycle of abuse and poverty.

In October 2004, FAAST launched our flagship Kids Learn FAAST tutoring and mentoring program, which currently serves 75 foster youth. Since then, FAAST has been actively developing enrichment programs such as Kids in Action and Cultural Encounters in collaboration with a wide variety of partner organizations, including

- Arizona Highways Photo Workshops
- Arizona State University Young Writers Program
- Bank of America Financial Literacy Program
- Maricopa County Producing Leaders of Tomorrow
- University of Advancing Technology

All of our programs rely on the commitment of volunteers and community members to contribute both their time and financial resources.

### Growing FAAST: Our AmeriCorps\*VISTA project

In August 2005, FAAST welcomed our first **AmeriCorps\*VISTA** member who laid the groundwork for a three-year capacity-building project. FAAST is currently approved to host up to three (3) members at our site, who bring a wide variety of skills and experience to our efforts to enhance the organizational infrastructure, processes, and programs needed to sustain and expand the critical services we offer to foster youth.

### AmeriCorps\*VISTA positions

**1. Kids Learn FAAST (KLF) Tutoring and Mentoring Program Expansion:** The program currently serves 75 foster youth in grades K-12 in Maricopa County, and FAAST plans to expand this program within Maricopa County and beyond to Native American Tribes and other Arizona counties, with a goal of state-wide service by 2010. The AmeriCorps\*VISTA member(s) will employ community outreach and client recruitment processes to increase the KLF volunteer base and case load in Maricopa County and to introduce the program on tribal territories and other Arizona counties.

**2. FAAST Track Career Mentoring Program Implementation:** This program remains in the pilot phase in partnership with Maricopa County Department Workforce Development with 30 youth enrolled. The AmeriCorps\*VISTA member(s) will work in close collaboration with various community partners to implement, standardize, and maintain program processes in order to help foster youth acquire the critical educational, professional, and life skills that they need to thrive as adult citizens.

**3. The Fund-Development Specialist** will support FAAST in researching and developing the financial and in-kind resources needed to ensure organizational sustainability.

"Never doubt that a small  
group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens  
can change the world.

Indeed, it is the only  
thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead





International Rescue Committee - Phoenix  
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# International Rescue Committee - Phoenix

## Phoenix, AZ

### Mission

The mission of the IRC is to provide relief, protection, and resettlement services to refugees and victims of oppression or violent conflict. We are committed to freedom, human dignity and self-reliance.

### Goal

The IRC – Phoenix is a local resettlement office that helps to resettle, on average, over 600 refugees per year into our community. Our goal is to help refugees and asylees reach a level of self-sufficiency through case management, employment, financial, mental health services and in-kind donations.

### History

IRC began in 1933 at the suggestion of Albert Einstein to assist Germans suffering under Hitler. Since then, the IRC has grown to include management of refugee camps, aid during and after natural disasters, aid to victims of human trafficking, and refugee resettlement services. We have 25 international offices and 15 national resettlement offices in the U.S., with our national headquarters in New York.

### IRC - Phoenix Projects

**AmeriCorps\*VISTA** provides full-time members to enhance services for resettling refugees in Phoenix.

IRC - Phoenix VISTA members serve in the Phoenix Metro area in a multicultural environment. Our VISTAs assist with capacity building, increasing public awareness, the creation of new partnerships, enhancement and coordination of services, and other locally directed activities that help build stronger refugee communities and allow us to provide broader services to refugees and asylees. They are also involved in ALERT, an IRC program that aids victims of human trafficking.

We currently have three VISTA positions in the IRC – Phoenix resettlement office. One VISTA works with IRC's anti-human trafficking program (ALERT) to increase public awareness about the plight of victims of human trafficking, and to increase community participation and support for ALERT. Another VISTA member serves as the outreach coordinator for IRC – Phoenix and is responsible for planning and executing informational and fundraising events, as well as for seeking funding from private companies and groups. Another VISTA is creating an emergency childcare program to reduce child-care related barriers to employment, an emergency housing program, and helping refugees start childcare businesses from home.





## **Refugee Resettlement Program ~ Phoenix, AZ**

### **~ Mission ~**

The mission of the LSSS Refugee Resettlement Program is to provide quality, comprehensive resettlement services to refugees who have fled their homeland due to persecution and have been admitted to the United States through the U.S. Refugee Program.

.....

...

### **~ Goal ~**

To help refugees establish new lives in Phoenix and to provide the support and means to become self-sufficient within four months from the date of arrival.

.....

...

### **~ VISTA Projects ~**

The VISTA members coordinate programs for the varying needs of refugee families. VISTA activities include:

- ~Register children in school and track their academic progress.
- ~Conduct parenting skills workshops and provide parenting resources.

### **“Showing Kindness, Doing Justice and Serving Those in Need.”**



### **Activities Supported by VISTA Members:**

- ~Conduct “Welcome to American Schools” classes for youth.
  - ~Plan cultural orientation events for children and parents.
  - ~Recruit and train volunteers to work with newly arrived families.
  - ~Help new arrivals open bank accounts and provide information on banking basics.
  - ~Conduct employment orientation classes.
  - ~Solicit donations as needed
- .....
- .....

### **~ History ~**

Lutheran Social Services has been resettling refugees for almost 30 years. Each year the program resettles several hundred refugees in Phoenix and Tucson. Resettlement partners include the U.S. Department of State, Office of Refugee Resettlement, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, and the State of Arizona. There are also countless local faith-based organizations and community volunteers that contribute to the success of the program.



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## Lutheran Social Ministries of the Southwest

### Tucson, Arizona

#### ~ Mission ~

The mission of the LSMS **Refugee Resettlement Program** is to provide quality, comprehensive resettlement services to refugees who have fled their homeland due to persecution.

The mission of the LSMS **Asylum Program** is to provide legal services to indigent asylum seekers who have fled their country of origin and who are seeking the security and protection of the U.S. Government.

#### ~ History ~

Lutheran Social Ministry has been **resettling refugees** for more than 25 years. The Tucson Program, previously under the auspices of Episcopal Community Services, became an LSMS entity in 2003.

The **Asylum Program** of Southern Arizona is a nonprofit legal aid organization founded in 1999 by former refugees, human rights advocates, attorneys and religious workers. In October 2005, APSA became an entity of Lutheran Social Ministry of the Southwest under the Multicultural Division. In the past year, the program has begun providing immigration services to asylees and hopes to expand services to include Maricopa County in the near future.

**Service Area:** Pima County

#### ~Goals~

The goal of the **Refugee Resettlement Program** is to help refugees establish new lives in Tucson and to provide the support and means to become self-sufficient within four months from their date of arrival.

The goal of the **Asylum Program** is to help asylum seekers achieve the right to establish a new and permanent life in the United States without fear of persecution through the asylum process.

#### ~ VISTA Project ~

##### **Refugee Resettlement Program**

The VISTA member serves as the program's Church Co-sponsorship Developer and is directly responsible for recruiting faith-based groups and volunteers throughout Tucson for participation in the program.

##### **Refugee Resettlement Program**

The VISTA member is also responsible for tracking volunteer hours, service, and in-kind donations, and chairs monthly volunteer support meetings.

##### **Asylum Program**

The VISTA member serves as the coordinator for APSA's volunteer interpreter/translator training and coordination program. As such, the VISTA member is charged with recruiting volunteers, organizing and conducting trainings, matching volunteers with clients needing interpreter/translator services, maintaining the program's listserve, conducting monthly volunteer support meetings and assisting with data entry needs.



The Primavera Foundation  
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# The Primavera Foundation

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

**Primavera** sows the seeds of change by strengthening lives, building communities, and advocating for social justice. To address the mission, Primavera's innovative programs and services provide a full range of opportunities to help people transition from poverty to greater well-being and security.

### Goal

The goal of the **Prisoner Re-Entry Partnership** is to reduce recidivism by assisting recently released prisoners in finding work and housing when they return to their communities. PREP's successful re-entry strategies remove the barriers to successful employment by providing wrap around services and advocacy, fostering participant accountability, and building community participation and awareness.

### History

**The Primavera Foundation, Inc.** was established in 1983 by Nancy Bissell and Gordon Packard in response to the increasing numbers of homeless people on the streets of Tucson. Its purpose was to address the systemic cause of homelessness through a process of advocacy and education and to establish and operate service programs that offer innovative solutions while demonstrating Primavera's principles in action.



**Primavera's** newest program, the **Prisoner Re-Entry Partnership, PREP**, reintegrates non-violent ex-prisoners into the community by providing employment, training, housing, and advocacy. PREP Partners with Primavera include: PHASE/University of Arizona, Dorothy Kret & Associates, Old Pueblo Community Foundation, the YWCA, Pima County One Stop, and the Arizona Department of Corrections.

**Primavera's AmeriCorps\*VISTA** members will be helping to build healthy and strong communities by working to remove structural barriers to prisoner re-entry and by educating people on the importance of employment and community support for successful re-entry.

The **Americorps\*VISTA** members will work as outreach coordinators with the three Weed and Seed Coalitions in Tucson, integrating the goals of PREP with those of the Weed and Seed neighborhoods focused on reducing crime and improving quality of life and economic opportunities.

Through active community organizing with these urban neighborhoods struggling with issues of economic injustice, poverty, and prisoner re-entry, the **Americorps\*VISTA** members will help these neighborhoods identify challenges and offer opportunities to address problems before they negatively impact the community.



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# Southwest Conservation Corps - Tucson

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

The mission of the Southwest Conservation Corps is to empower individuals to positively impact their lives, their communities and the environment.

### Goal

The Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) provides young women and men with structured, safe, and challenging work and educational opportunities through employment projects that promote personal growth, the development of social skills, and an ethic of natural resource stewardship.

### History

SCC is a non-profit organization founded in 1998 upon the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s. SCC incorporates the guiding principles of experiential learning, respect, openness and willingness to achieve results, commitment, responsibility, pride, excellence, health and safety, and fun. SCC annually serves 250 young people in a variety of programs.

### SCC Tucson Projects

**AmeriCorps\*VISTA** provides full-time members to enhance SCC's positive impact upon youth in southern Arizona. Tucson - VISTA members serve in the Tucson Metro area in a multicultural environment. Our VISTAs assist with capacity building in the areas of Community Outreach and Education, with the goals of increasing community support and awareness of SCC's programs, and enhancing SCC's educational materials and methodology.

We have two VISTAs in the Tucson office. One VISTA works to increase SCC's visibility and community connections in Tucson. This work is achieved through marketing campaigns, outreach to community leaders and target populations, and organizing SCC participation in community events. The other VISTA is working to develop SCC's materials and methodologies to ensure that we are meeting participants' – and project sponsors' - needs. The scope of SCC's education program ranges from basic environmental education to leadership development, with the goal of ensuring that every participant has the life skills to tap his or her potential.



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# Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona

## Mission

The Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona, founded in 1965, is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening communities through effective volunteerism. We're best known as a clearinghouse for volunteers, but we also deliver creative solutions to community problems by harnessing the power of volunteerism in a number of other ways. We directly engage young people and adults in a variety of programs that better the community and encourage life-long involvement in volunteer activities. And we support hundreds of other nonprofit organizations that use volunteers by helping them develop their volunteer programs, and by training, referring, and honoring volunteers.

**AmeriCorps\* VISTA** members make a one-year commitment to work full-time serving low-income communities and families across the country. VISTAs live in the communities they serve, creating and expanding programs that can continue after they complete their service. Members focus on building community capacity, mobilizing community resources, and increasing self-reliance.

## Volunteer Center



## Partner Schools

### Sahuarita School District

Sahuarita Primary School  
Sahuarita Elementary School  
Sopori Elementary  
Anza Trail Elementary

### Tucson Unified School District

Johnson Primary School  
Wheeler Elementary School

**Our community-based school volunteer project** is a collaboration between several organizations that seeks to develop strong volunteer programs in area schools, particularly volunteer tutoring programs that help improve the literacy skills of elementary school students in Southern Arizona.

Staffed by AmeriCorps\* VISTAs, the program supports the following volunteer literacy tutoring programs, as well as community volunteers :

- Catch-Up Literacy
- Experience Corps
- OASIS Intergenerational Tutoring
- Rotary Club of Tucson's Reading Seed

In its first year, this program:

- Serves six schools in two school districts
- Supports 135 volunteer reading tutors who have served more than 1600 hours
- Provides assistance to hundreds of students





Volunteer Center of Maricopa County  
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# Homeland Security VISTAs and YVC AmeriCorps

## Phoenix, AZ Volunteer Center of Maricopa County

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### **Mission**

The Volunteer Center's mission is to provide agencies with manpower, knowledge, and training to build their capacity to solve community problems. In return, we provide volunteers the opportunity to learn, apply skills, make an impact, and give back to the community.

### **Vision**

The vision of the Volunteer Center is to be the volunteer resource of choice for individuals, organizations, and funders.

### **History**

The Volunteer Center was founded in 1962 by the Junior League of Phoenix. Former Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote its first set of bylaws. In 1979, the Volunteer Center was proud to have recruited over 8,000 individuals to volunteer. In 2005, the Volunteer Center recruited over 53,000 people for over 450 nonprofit and public agencies! In 1980, we began providing managers of volunteers at nonprofit organizations with volunteer management training to assist them in effectively utilizing volunteers. In 2005, over 600 professionals attended those trainings. In 1991, The Volunteer Center became a member of the Points of Light Foundation and Volunteer Center National Network. Our first Youth Service Day was in 1993, and the Youth Volunteer Corps Council was born.

The Volunteer Center is home to the Youth Volunteer Corps, a county-wide program set up to engage youth in volunteer service projects on an ongoing basis and to allow them practice in taking leadership roles. The 600-plus Youth Corps is made up of students from numerous grammar and high schools, and is supported by AmeriCorps members.

### **State Citizen Corps Liaison**

This AmeriCorps VISTA will reach out to Community Emergency Response Teams, Volunteers in Police Service, Citizen Corps Councils, Medical Reserve Corps, Fire Corps, and Neighborhood Watches, and support their efforts to prepare low-income communities for disasters.

### **Medical Reserve Corps**

The Volunteer Center, working with the county Department of Emergency Management, Public Health, and numerous medical professionals, has been able to launch and maintain a countywide volunteer corps to be activated during disasters. Starting with 170 pharmacists that were trained in mass dispensing, the MRC has grown to almost 800 medical professionals in multiple sub-corps: Physicians, Nurses, Pharmacists, Pre-hospital (EMT, paramedic), and Mental Health. During Katrina, 35 MRC volunteers were deployed to the Gulf Coast to support first responders locally during the disaster.

### **Disaster Volunteers (SUV)**

In the case of a breach of homeland security or a natural disaster, low-income individuals are affected disproportionately. Not only do many live in substandard housing, if that housing is destroyed or uninhabitable, low-income individuals and families do not have the financial resources necessary to obtain new housing. The AmeriCorps VISTA project will address these issues by developing infrastructures to enable low-income individuals to volunteer within homeland security and disaster preparedness activities, and to prepare low-income individuals to minimize the impact of disasters on themselves, their families, and their communities.



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# Navajo Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)

## Navajo Area Agency on Aging

### **Purpose**

The Navajo FGP is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Navajo Nation, and the state of New Mexico. The program provides meaningful community volunteer service, fills in the gaps for children who are in need, and fosters intergenerational relationships between elders and children.

### **History**

The Navajo Nation Foster Grandparent Program was established in 1972, is administered under the Navajo Area Agency on Aging, and serves the Navajo reservation.

### **Program Elements**

This program engages elders 60 years and older with limited income to meet critical educational, cultural preservation, and human resource needs in their local communities. The program also enables elders to remain socially, physically, mentally and economically active through community service. It serves children, ages 0-21 who have academic, behavioral, cultural heritage, emotional, and other day care needs.

### **Service Area**

Divided into five regional programs covering northern **Arizona** in Apache, Navajo and Coconino Counties; western **New Mexico** in McKinley, San Juan and Sandoval Counties; and southern **Utah**. At least half of the volunteer force is in Arizona, and half is in New Mexico.

### **Types of Service**

Every year, Navajo FGP recruits and provides 150 to 186 volunteer placements in four service categories:

**Navajo Culture and Language** - 13 volunteers serve 52 children with Navajo language/culture activities.

**Day-Care Centers** - 15 volunteers help care for 60 infants and children. They receive positive daily reinforcements, feeding, nurturing, comforting, self-help skills, cooperative social and behavioral skills, emotional control and discipline.

**Early Childhood (Head Start)** - 84 volunteers assisted 336 children, one-on-one with pre-school activities, and reinforced positive social and self-help skills.

**Tutoring/Literacy/Mentoring** - 93 volunteers are assisting 336 children to improve their schoolwork, behavior, stay on task and complete assignments.

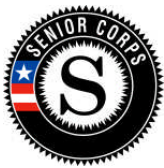
### **Program Accomplishments**

Annually, the Navajo FGP volunteers contribute over 150,000 hours of community service to children with needs.

- Cultural Heritage - 75% of the children learn basic Navajo vocabulary, reading and writing. Navajo children learned Navajo cultural etiquette and values, and developed increased self-confidence to interact with elders and family.
- Day-Care Centers - Last year, 100% of the children served by FGP volunteers were reported to have increased their overall development and adaptability.
- 70% of the Head Start children, ages 4-5, attained Head Start readiness and completed the program. 76% were promoted to kindergarten. For children ages 3 and 4, 94% were better prepared to continue to the next level. 85% of the children learned basic Navajo words and participated in cultural activities.
- Tutoring/Literacy/Mentoring - In the previous year, 84% of the children assisted were promoted to the next grade, and 80% of the students gained and improved skills.

**Program Needs:** Additional volunteers in Apache, Navajo and Coconino Counties, funds for program administration, and expense reimbursement for volunteer mileage to enable volunteers to continue volunteering and meet critical needs of children.





## Southwest Arizona Foster Grandparent Program

Arizona Department of Economic Security

Division of Aging and Adult Services

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# Southwest Arizona Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)

## Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES)

### Mission

The mission of the DES Southwest Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) is to create lasting positive change in the lives of children in need by fostering intergenerational relationships within communities.

### History

The DES Southwest FGP has provided services statewide for over 25 years. Strategically located in the Division of Aging & Adult Services, the FGP links with other state programs and services strengthening the overall quality of program delivery.

### Program Elements

- Engage seniors, 60 years and older with limited income, in volunteer service to meet critical community needs.
- Enable seniors 60 years and older to remain physically and mentally active and to enhance self-esteem through participation in needed community service.
- Serve children under age 21 with special or exceptional needs to achieve improved physical, mental, emotional and social development.

**Service Area: Pinal, Maricopa, Pima, Yuma, Greenlee, Cochise, La Paz, Gila, Graham and Santa Cruz Counties**

### Types of Service

**Tutoring:** Students, grades pre-school through 4<sup>th</sup> grade, receive daily one-on-one reading instruction from Foster Grandparents. Foster Grandparents utilize a variety of resources to include books, games, phonics cards, and other skill-related activities to reinforce basic concepts and skills. The value of these long-term intergenerational relationships has a significant impact on both students and seniors. In conjunction with reading instruction, consistent and structured tutoring by seniors can help students improve their skills and reading levels, as well as their motivation and behavior in both reading and regular classrooms.

**Mentoring:** As mentors, Foster Grandparents provide emotional support and guidance to at-risk or troubled youth (up to age 18). Mentoring is one of the most important ways Foster Grandparents impact the life of a young person. The nurturing, guidance, and individual attention given by a Foster Grandparent can have a significant impact on the positive growth and social development of a young person.

### Program Accomplishments

During 2005-2006, 73 Foster Grandparents contributed 55,054 hours of volunteer service to 1,620 young children and teenagers in Southwestern Arizona communities.

### Program Needs

A total of 50 Foster Grandparents are needed for placement by the end of September 2007 at various sites: elementary schools, Head Start programs, and several non-profit social service agencies. Foster Grandparents are needed for both tutoring and mentoring.





# Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)

## Northern Arizona University, Gerontology Institute

### **Purpose**

The Foster Grandparent Program has the dual purpose of engaging persons age 60 and older, particularly those with limited incomes, in volunteer service to meet critical community needs and provide supportive, person-to-person service to children having exceptional or special needs.

### **History**

The Northern Arizona Regional Gerontology Institute was established in 1986 at Northern Arizona University (NAU) and has since brought forth a variety of volunteer programs aimed to encourage senior community participation and involvement. The Foster Grandparent Program is one of three Senior Corps Programs sponsored by the Gerontology Institute at NAU.

### **Program Elements**

FGP of Northern and Central Arizona recruits, trains and places volunteers age 60+ with children of special or exceptional needs. FGP volunteers serve between 15 and 40 hours weekly and receive a non-taxable government stipend of \$2.65 an hour, as well as meal (\$2.50/meal) and mileage (\$0.375/mile) reimbursement to enable volunteers to serve at no cost to themselves. FGP volunteers also receive secondary insurance coverage, an annual physical exam, stipended vacation and sick leave, an annual recognition event, and monthly newsletters.

### **Service Area:**

Coconino, Navajo, Apache, Mohave, west Maricopa and Yavapai Counties and the Hopi Tribe

### **Types of Service**

FGP of Northern and Central Arizona focuses on volunteer placement with children having special or exceptional needs with an emphasis on helping them with (1) Language Development Skills; (2) Learning Skills; (3) Social/Emotional Skills; and (4) Fine and Gross Motor Skills.

Foster Grandparents serve with children primarily in Head Start Centers, elementary schools and after-school programs. Special or exceptional needs may include children who are abused or neglected; HIV/AIDS; developmentally delayed; having a disability, emotionally impaired, hearing impaired, homeless, juvenile delinquent, those with language barriers, learning disabled, physically disabled, runaway youth, medically impaired, substance abuse, teen pregnancy or parent, terminally ill, visually impaired or needing after-school care.

### **Program Accomplishments**

During 2005-06, 94 FGP volunteers contributed 66,210 hours and assisted over 389 children with special/exceptional needs. Pre/post assessments were conducted using the following scale: F-falling below standards; A-approaching standards; M-meeting standards; E-exceeding standards.

- 83% of children improved their language development skills by one level during the school year with assistance from an FGP volunteer. Sixty-three percent of the children showed an improvement in attitude toward language skills.
- Of children receiving assistance with learning skills, 69% showed an improvement of one level or more with the help of FGP volunteers; and 68% showed a positive improvement in their attitude toward learning.
- 86% of children showed a positive change in their social/emotional skills, while 76% showed a positive change in their attitude in their social/emotional skills.
- 66% of children showed a positive change in their fine/gross motor skills, while 59% showed a positive attitude regarding their motor skills.



# Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

## Area Agency on Aging, Region One

### ***Purpose***

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) encourages persons 55 and older to use their knowledge, experience, and current interests in volunteer settings with non-profit organizations and public agencies throughout Maricopa County.

### ***History***

The Area Agency on Aging, Region One strives to secure, promote, and provide essential services to enhance the quality of life in a diverse and changing society. We meet this challenge through advocacy, coordination, building alliances, and promoting public awareness guided by integrity, vision, and sustained commitment.

### ***Program Elements***

The program offers opportunities for persons age 55 and older to participate in the life of the community through volunteer service. Maricopa RSVP promotes volunteerism by providing assistance with volunteer placement, mileage reimbursement for those that would otherwise find volunteering a hardship, supplemental accident and liability insurance, and volunteer appreciation.

### ***Service Area***

Maricopa County: Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, Phoenix, Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community, and Western Maricopa County.

### ***Types of Service***

#### ***Presentations by Seniors (PBS)***

PBS is committed to fighting prejudice and promoting self-esteem. The program provides senior volunteers the opportunity to present video/discussions in schools within the Maricopa RSVP geographic area on topics such as Prejudice, Multi-Cultural Communication, Celebrating Diversity, Cooperation, and Self-esteem. Specialized presentations are available on the Holocaust, African American History, Japanese Internment Camps, and World War II. The goal is to promote positive self-esteem with appreciation for all cultures. RSVP, via Presentations by Seniors (PBS), collaborates with Paradise Valley Community College and Phoenix College.

#### ***Phoenix Opportunity Corps/Adopted Grandparents***

Opportunity Corps promotes intergenerational learning between older adults on behalf of youth. Opportunity Corps places volunteers in classrooms to tutor students in reading and mathematics to be role models in life skills. Currently, volunteers are serving in a number of elementary schools in the Paradise Valley School District.

### ***Program Accomplishments***

- During 2006, over 800 active volunteers served almost 159,000 hours.
- We collaborate with Area Agency on Agency Programs and services to provide outreach to Senior Centers; Meals on Wheels programs; inter-generational, literacy, benefits assistance, and other social service programs.
- Maricopa RSVP participates in Statewide Senior Corps activities; collaborates with the Volunteer Center of Maricopa County, AVACA, and the AZ Mentoring Initiative; has an active Volunteer Programs Advisory Council composed of community members, station coordinators, and a volunteer is active in the National Service Inclusion Project (NSIP).
- We provide Station Coordinator and volunteer training.



Pinal/Gila RSVP—Central AZ Association of Governments  
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# Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

## Central Arizona Association of Governments

### **Purpose**

Under the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNS) provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations for the dual purpose of engaging persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs.

### **History**

The Central Arizona Association of Governments (CAAG) took over sponsorship of Pinal/Gila RSVP in 1992. With a greater demand and need for volunteer utilization, CAAG-RSVP has since maintained a variety of volunteer programs encouraging senior community participation and involvement.

### **Program Elements**

Pinal/Gila RSVP promotes the engagement of volunteers age 55 and older as a resource in planning and delivering activities within non-profit and public agencies that will use their skills, knowledge, and life experiences in meeting the needs of their service area. The goals and objectives for the RSVP program are created through the partnership of CNCS, the sponsor entity (CAAG), and the respective community being served. RSVP provides volunteers with secondary insurance, optional mileage reimbursement, and recognition of service.

### **Service Area**

Pinal/Gila Counties

### **Types of Service**

Pinal/Gila RSVP focuses volunteer placement in several activity areas: Child Literacy/Tutoring and Mentoring, Food Distribution/Collection, Cultural Heritage, Safety/Accident & Fire Prevention, and Law Enforcement.

### **Program Accomplishments**

Every year, almost 500 RSVP members contribute over 100,000 hours of service to more than 50 volunteer work stations in the CAAG Region. Here are a few of the services provided:

- **Child Literacy/Tutoring & Mentoring**—Project Catapult continues to be a very impressive and successful program, expanding service from 3 to 8 schools in Pinal and Pima Counties. Over 150 volunteers (30 RSVP) tutor more than 600 children per day, ensuring that students are better prepared to pass the AIMS mandatory testing referencing math and reading.
- **Safety/Accident & Fire Prevention**—Approximately 200 homebound, elderly and/or disabled individuals throughout the CAAG Region have been provided with safety information, receive daily phone call/welfare checks, been given a “HomeAlone-SafeAlone” kit or and have 911 cell phone for emergency use. RSVP members provide for and serve most of these citizens.
- **Law Enforcement**—The Pinal County Sheriff’s Office is utilizing several RSVP members in researching & investigating “Cold Case” files, which are crimes that have gone unsolved for years. A majority of these volunteers are retired from law-enforcement and have an understanding and special interest in working the cases. To date, several crimes have been solved.

**Program Needs:** Additional funding for program administration and technical assistance would be beneficial, along with enhanced mileage reimbursement for RSVP members.



East Valley RSVP  
247 N. Macdonald  
Mesa, AZ 85201  
480-775-1466, ext. 117  
480-833-6282 FAX  
[directorevrsvp@evseniorservices.org](mailto:directorevrsvp@evseniorservices.org)

# Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

## East Valley Senior Services

### **Purpose**

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations for the dual purpose of engaging persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs.

### **History**

East Valley RSVP was started in Maricopa County in 1972 under the sponsorship of the Foundation for Senior Living. East Valley Senior Services Inc. has retained the sponsorship of the RSVP program since July 2001. Previous community sponsors were the Tempe Community Council, Mesa Community College, and Mesa Community Council.

### **Program Elements**

The program's mission is to recruit, train, and develop service sites in the East Valley of Maricopa county for volunteer placements of persons 55 years of age or older. RSVP volunteers are the "helping hands" for a majority of non-profit organizations who are often in short supply of suitable staff due to lack of funds. RSVP provides the expertise to assist these agencies in recruiting and maintaining suitable volunteers to meet their goals and objectives as they make a positive difference in the community.

### **Service Area**

The East Valley including: Mesa, Tempe, Chandler, Gilbert, Queen Creek, and Sun Lakes.

### **Types of Service**

East Valley RSVP focuses on volunteer placement in three primary focus areas: **Senior Citizen Assistance, Mentoring and Tutoring At Risk Youth, and Health and Nutrition.** East Valley RSVP volunteers also help to improve the community by providing assistance at museums, public libraries, police departments, schools, working with children of incarcerated parents, providing leadership as board members, and fundraising for the program. RSVP volunteers also assist organizations with special one-time events and projects.

### **Senior Citizen Assistance**

RSVP volunteers conduct Home Safety Checks and provide in-home assistance to the frail elderly who are living alone. Activities include: transportation to doctor's appointments, conducting friendly calls, light housekeeping/cooking. Volunteers also provide support to those living in Assisted Living Centers and Nursing Homes

### **Mentor and/or Tutor At-Risk Children and Youth**

RSVP volunteers provide mentoring and/or tutoring to students in the Mesa, Tempe, and Chandler School Districts, as well as at Tempe Pappas School for Homeless Children. Additionally, we partner with several faith-based mentoring projects and a Junior Achievement "Exchange City" project. Other project partners include: National Guard "Project Challenge," Guardianship Review, and the Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

### **Health and Nutrition**

RSVP volunteers assist in packaging and delivering meals to the homebound, support congregate meal programs, and assist in a myriad of tasks in seven East Valley area hospitals.

### **Program Accomplishments**

During 2005-2006, 653 RSVP Volunteers contributed 132,694 hours of Service to the East Valley of Maricopa County.

- 65 RSVP volunteers served 90 homebound frail and elderly clients with at-home services, allowing them to continue to live independently.
- 22 RSVP volunteers provided tutoring and mentoring to 90 at-risk youth.

**Program Needs:** Financial volunteer support for optional mileage reimbursement and volunteer recognition. Volunteers for tutoring, mentoring, and special events.



# Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

## Northern Arizona University, Gerontology Institute

### **Purpose**

Under the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), the Corporation for National Service provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations for the dual purpose of engaging persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs.

### **History**

The Northern Arizona Regional Gerontology Institute was established in 1986 at Northern Arizona University (NAU) and has since brought forth a variety of volunteer programs aimed to encourage senior community participation and involvement.

### **Program Elements**

RSVP of Northern Arizona recruits and places volunteers age 55 and older into activities within non-profit and public agencies that will use their skills, knowledge, and life experience to meet community needs through meaningful assignments. RSVP enables seniors to contribute to their community, to enhance their lives as volunteers and to enhance the lives of those they serve.

RSVP supports volunteers with secondary insurance, optional mileage reimbursement, recognition activities, and newsletters.

### **Service Area**

RSVP of Northern Arizona serves: Coconino, Navajo, Apache and Yavapai Counties

### **Types of Service**

RSVP of Northern Arizona focuses volunteer placement into three activity areas: Community Improvement, RSVP for Children's Literacy, and Health & Safety.

RSVP volunteers in Northern Arizona serve to **improve the community** by providing adult literacy education and GED assistance, managing/serving volunteer-run public libraries; educating the public on environmental issues; assisting museums to serve the public; providing services to the disabled, victims of crime, and children of incarcerated parents.

**RSVP for Children's Literacy** recruits and places volunteers into area elementary schools to serve as literacy coaches to identified children who may not be performing at grade level in reading and math.

RSVP volunteers help to meet the **Health and Safety** needs of elderly seniors by distributing the File of Life and emergency beacons and providing much-needed companionship to isolated elderly residing in assisted-living facilities. Volunteers also assist food banks with social service referrals and emergency food distribution.

### **Program Accomplishments**

During 2005-06, 393 RSVP volunteers contributed 50,606 hours of service to Northern Arizona communities.

- 10 Literacy Coaches served 97 low income and minority children with 162 hours of extra reading practice. 93% of the children demonstrated an increase in reading skills.
- 172 volunteers assisted 35,000 adults and children with emergency needs in the four-county area.
- 20 volunteers provided 1,556 tutoring hours in adult literacy education, which will enable families to find and maintain jobs in Northern Arizona.

**Program Needs:** Volunteers in Williams and Ash Fork, funds for program administration, funds for volunteer benefits, and volunteer recruitment.





RSVP of Pima County  
8464 E. Broadway  
Tucson, AZ 85710  
Phone: 520-546-2002  
Fax: 520-790-7577

# Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

## RSVP of Pima County

### **Purpose**

Under the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), the Corporation for National Service provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations for the dual purpose of engaging persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs; and to provide a high quality experience that will enrich the lives of the volunteers.

### **History**

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has been under the sponsorship of Pima Council on Aging (PCOA) since 1973. RSVP in Pima County is the only Senior Corps Program in Arizona that has continued under the same sponsor, PCOA, since its inception. This program has brought forth a variety of volunteer programs aimed at encouraging senior community participation and involvement.

### **Program Elements**

RSVP of Pima County recruits and places volunteers age 55 and older into activities within non-profit and public agencies that will use their skills, knowledge, and life experience to meet community needs through meaningful assignments. RSVP enables seniors to contribute to their community, to enhance their lives as volunteers, and to enhance the lives of those they serve. RSVP supports volunteers with secondary insurance, optional mileage reimbursement, recognition activities, and newsletters.

### **Service Area**

RSVP of Pima County serves: All of Pima County, which includes, Tucson, Ajo, Catalina, Green Valley and Marana.

### **Types of Service**

RSVP of Pima County has volunteer placements with programs which focus on: Senior Citizens Assistance, Health and Safety, and many other areas.

RSVP volunteers in Pima County serve to **improve the community** by providing educational awareness to the public on the preservation of desert/wildlife and nature parks, assisting museums in serving the public in cultural heritage areas, assisting individuals in job placement, and providing leadership as board members.

RSVP volunteers help to meet the **Health & Safety** needs of Pima County by providing isolated/homebound seniors with the opportunity to continue living independently in their own homes by providing services such as companionship, transportation to appointments, budgeting assistance, etc. Volunteers patrol neighborhoods, do fingerprinting for children, and help with search and rescue of missing persons. Volunteers assist food banks/food programs with the distribution of monthly food boxes and emergency food, and serve as volunteer ambassadors by providing other seniors with information on services and assistance available to help them maintain a quality, independent lifestyle. RSVP volunteers also provide leadership by managing activities of other volunteers for these programs.

### **A Sample of Program Accomplishments**

During 2005-06, 417 RSVP volunteers contributed 94,543 hours of service to the Pima County community.

- 62 Neighbors Care Volunteers provided 454 homebound seniors with transportation, friendly visits, light housekeeping and telephone reassurance service with a total of 4,100 hours of service donated for the year.
- 51 volunteers provided 15,652 hours of service to museums and national parks which will bring awareness to the public on desert and wildlife.
- RSVP is in the initial stages of developing informational packets regarding disaster preparedness.

**Program Needs Funds** for RSVP satellite offices in Green Valley and Ajo, funds for volunteer benefits and volunteer recruitment.



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# Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

## Southeastern Arizona Community Action Program

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### Purpose

Under the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), the Corporation for National Service provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations for the dual purpose of engaging persons 55 years and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs; and to provide a high-quality experience that will enrich the lives of the volunteers.

### History

Southeastern Arizona Community Action Program, Inc. (SEACAP) was established in 1977 in Safford, Arizona, and has sponsored RSVP since 1985. It has brought forth a variety of volunteer projects aimed to encourage senior community participation and involvement.

### Program Elements

RSVP of Southeastern Arizona recruits and places volunteers age 55 and older into activities within non-profit and public agencies that will use their skills, knowledge, and life experience to meet community needs through meaningful assignments. RSVP enables seniors to contribute to their community, to enhance their lives as volunteers, and to enhance the lives of those they serve. RSVP supports volunteers with secondary insurance, optional mileage reimbursement, recognition activities, and newsletters.

**Service Area:** Cochise,  
Graham, Greenlee, and Santa  
Cruz Counties

### Types of Service

RSVP of Southeastern Arizona focuses volunteer placement into two activity areas: providing elderly homebound seniors with daily nutritional meals (Meals on Wheels), and providing families that have children with gleaning produce distributed from food banks.

RSVP volunteers in Southeastern Arizona serve to **improve the communities** by providing the delivery of meals to homebound elderly seniors from nutrition centers so they may receive a daily healthy, nutritional meal from the Meals on Wheels program. RSVP volunteers assist with the gleaning program in the distribution of food.

**RSVP for Meals on Wheels** recruits and places volunteers in nutrition centers to serve as drivers and provide outreach to identified homebound seniors in need of receiving outreach and/or a healthy, nutritious meal from the Meals on Wheels program.

RSVP volunteers help with the **Gleaning Program** by distributing food, and by scheduling and delivering bagged food to elementary schools and special drop-off centers in the Graham and Greenlee Counties. Volunteers help with the collection, packing, and distribution of food for those families in need to alleviate hunger.

### Program Accomplishments

During 2005-06, 259 RSVP volunteers contributed 39,271 hours of service to Southeastern Arizona communities.

- 120 volunteers provided 31,200 hours delivering meals to homebound elderly seniors in need of healthy, nutritional meals in the four-county areas.
- 103 volunteers provided 4,769 hours at the gleaning and food bank sites distributing, scheduling, and delivering bagged food to elementary schools and special drop-off designated areas in Southeastern Arizona.

**Program Needs:** Funds to cover program administration and volunteer mileage for the after-school program.



# Senior Companion Program (SCP)

## City of Phoenix, Senior Services Division

### **Purpose**

Under the Senior Companion Program (SCP), the Corporation for National Service provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations for the dual purpose of engaging persons 60 and older, particularly those with limited incomes, in volunteer service to meet critical community needs.

### **History**

In 1974, the city of Phoenix was one of the first 18 Senior Companion Program project sponsors in the nation. The grant is administered through the Human Services Department, Senior Services Division.

### **Program Elements**

SCP of the city of Phoenix recruits and trains volunteers age 60 and older to assist frail elders or adults with disabilities in maintaining optimal independence. Senior Companion volunteers serve 15 to 40 hours a week and receive a small tax-free stipend, including other benefits. The city of Phoenix partners with 30 volunteer stations strategically located in underserved areas of the community. Volunteer Stations include non-profit and faith-based organizations and public agencies.

### **Service Area**

SCP of city of Phoenix serves communities within Phoenix city limits.

### **Types of Service**

SCP of the city of Phoenix focuses volunteer placement into two activity areas: Independent Living, and Center-Based Companionship/Outreach.

Senior Companion Volunteers serving in **Independent Living** settings visit assigned clients in their homes. Volunteers average a minimum of 4 hours a week serving clients and provide friendly, non-medical assistance to help them remain independent. Volunteer activities may include preparing correspondence, basic home management, grocery shopping, and social activities in the community when possible.

Senior Companion volunteers serving in **Companionship Outreach** settings provide one-to-one assistance to assigned clients in senior centers, adult day healthcare centers, and assisted-living facilities. Emphasis is on maintaining or enhancing the client's participation in socialization activities with others in a congregate setting. Volunteers serve a minimum of 4 hours per week with each assigned client.

### **Program Accomplishments**

During 2005-2006, 87 Senior Companions provided over 95,000 hours of service to over 400 elders and disabled adults in communities within the city of Phoenix.

- 100% of independent living clients reported increased confidence in their ability to manage affairs of daily living.
- 76% of the independent living clients remained in their homes at the end of program year.
- 97% of companionship/outreach center-based clients showed increased participation in center activities.
- 83% of companionship/outreach center-based clients continued to attend the center/facility at the end of program year.

### **Program Needs**

Additional volunteers are needed to serve in targeted areas.





# Senior Companion Program (SCP)

## Northern Arizona University, Gerontology Institute

### Purpose

The Senior Companion Program has the dual purpose of engaging persons age 60 and older, particularly those with limited incomes, in volunteer service to meet critical community needs and to provide supportive, individualized services to help adults with special needs maintain their dignity and independence.

### History

The Northern Arizona Regional Gerontology Institute was established in 1986 at Northern Arizona University (NAU) and has since brought forth a variety of volunteer programs aimed to encourage senior community participation and involvement. The Senior Companion Program is one of three Senior Corps Programs sponsored by the Gerontology Institute at NAU.

### Program Elements

SCP of Northern and Central Arizona recruits, trains, and places volunteers age 60 and older to help homebound or bed bound older adults age 50 and over. SCP volunteers serve between 15 to 40 hours weekly and receive a non-taxable government stipend of \$2.65 an hour, and meal (\$2.50/meal) and mileage (\$0.375/mile) reimbursement to enable volunteers to serve at no cost to themselves.

### Service Area

SCP of Northern & Central Arizona serves: Coconino, Navajo, Apache, Mohave, west Maricopa, and Yavapai Counties, and the Hopi Tribe

### Types of Service

SCP of Northern and Central Arizona focuses volunteer placement with homebound or bed-bound clients with an emphasis on helping them with (1) Activities of Daily Living; (2) Companionship; bringing the outside world into the home of a homebound person; (3) Respite Care for full time caregivers, allowing them to attend to their household or personal needs.

Senior Companions serve with home/bed-bound seniors and help them with their **Activities of Daily Living**, which may include help with feeding, light meal preparation, dressing, grooming, shopping, running errands, light housekeeping, etc.

SCP volunteers also provide **Companionship** by talking and listening, and accompanying clients to recreational activities.

Senior Companion volunteers also provide **Respite Care** to main caregivers, allowing them time to take care of household or personal needs. They may also feed, prepare meals, dress, groom, shop and do other necessary things for the client and main caregiver.

### Program Accomplishments

During 2005-06, 60 SCP volunteers contributed 44,294 hours of service to Northern and Central Arizona communities.

- 74% of partner agencies believed SCP volunteers were able to provide help to clients needing assistance with Activities of Daily Living. Furthermore, 77% felt that the SCP volunteer helped the client stay in a home setting and living as independent as possible.
- 95% of volunteer stations agreed that SCP volunteers helped clients show more interest in life because of the companionship services they received. Ninety percent agreed that the clients were engaged in more social activities.
- 100% of partner agencies agreed that main caregivers were able to get the rest they needed or take care of household/personal needs with the help of an SCP volunteer. Furthermore, 100% agreed that the client was more rejuvenated and could continue to care for their loved one at home due to the services provided by SCP volunteers.



# Senior Companion Program (SCP)

## Our Family Services, Inc.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of grantees' work is to engage volunteers 60 years of age or older that are income eligible to meet critical community needs in quality experiences that will enrich their lives and the lives of those served.

### **History**

In 2001, the Senior Companion Program came to Tucson/Pima County, Arizona under the sponsorship of what is today Our Family Services. The partnerships formed have lessened isolation and depression for the elderly who wish to remain in their homes longer and for those in centers and assisted-living facilities.

### **Program Elements**

The Senior Companion Program of Tucson/ Pima County, Arizona recruits, trains, mentors, and sustains its volunteers through classroom training curricula, in-the-field internships, and monthly in-services. Senior Companions commit an average of twenty hours of service per week to assignments in non-profit and public agencies. The Senior Companion Program supports its volunteers also with secondary insurance, transportation reimbursement, newsletters, physical examinations, and recognition activities.

### **Service Area**

Senior Companion Program of Tucson, Arizona serves Pima County.

### **Types of Service**

The Senior Companion Program of Tucson/Pima County, Arizona focuses on volunteer placement in two activity areas: **in-home assignments** to include **respite services** and **in-facility assignments**.

Senior Companion Program serves to provide assistance to adults with physical, emotional, or mental health limitations. Most are elderly, and all have challenges with daily living tasks. Senior Companions, serving an average of 20 hours per week, help seniors retain their dignity and independence by addressing daily living needs. Activities may include buying groceries, preparing light meals, reading mail, providing or finding transportation to doctors' appointments, etc.

### **Program Accomplishments**

- 2005 -2006 Senior Companion volunteers (51 in total) contributed 70,500 hours of service to the Tucson/Pima County communities.
- For **in-home assignments**, 254 clients were served; for **in-facility assignments**, over 600 clients were served.
- 96% of clients served reported that the companionship and outreach services given by their Senior Companion have helped them feel less lonely, less isolated, and less depressed.
- 90% of clients served reported that because of the transportation provided by their Senior Companion, they have not had to cancel medical appointments and are able to get to more necessary medical appointments.
- 100% of caregivers receiving **respite services** from Senior Companions report being better able to take care of their own personal business and report feeling less stressed by their care-giving responsibilities.
- 48% of Senior Companions are bilingual Spanish/English.

### **Program Needs**

Volunteers in Marana, Catalina, and South Tucson, and funds for program administration and volunteer benefits and recruitment.



Camp Fire USA- Greater Arizona Council  
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TTY: 800-867-8939  
Fax: 602-954-7532  
[www.campfireaz.org](http://www.campfireaz.org)

# Camp Fire USA - Greater Arizona Council

## Phoenix, AZ

### Mission

**Camp Fire** is committed to building caring, confident youth and future leaders.

### About Us

The **Camp Fire** presence in Arizona was first felt in 1913, making it one of the oldest non-profit organizations in the state. Since that time, Camp Fire has evolved from a summer camp for girls to an organization that annually affects over 10,000 boys and girls from all social and economic levels. Our programs and camps celebrate diversity and include a wide array of opportunities for youth and families.

General programming includes summer resident camps for youth and families, an exceptional tutoring program for under-resourced K-12 schools across the Valley, and various youth and family club programs throughout the Phoenix metropolitan area.

### CMY (Committed to Murphy's Youth)

**CMY Allstarz** is a collaborative project between **Camp Fire** and the **Arizona Positive Youth Development Initiative** through the **Governor's Division for Community and Youth Development**.

### About CMY

**CMY** has been an active out-of-school program in the Murphy School District (located in Southwest Phoenix) since August 2005. The programming focuses on engaging youth, ages 10 to 24, within the geographic boundaries of Murphy.



The Mission of CMY is "Building Community Youth Leadership for Today and Tomorrow." It aims to create supportive communities for young people, while engaging youth as leaders in community processes that help them contribute to the well-being of their neighborhood.

**CMY AmeriCorps\*VISTA** members helped jump-start the CMY program in the fall of 2005. The members built strong relationships with community stakeholders to create youth leadership opportunities in the Murphy area, and they helped develop community structures that encourage and sustain youth leadership. The members also organized various community leadership trainings for youth and adults, which focused on community development strategies and the importance of youth and adult partnerships. Additionally, numerous collaborative relationships were established to provide needed opportunities and resources for youth in Murphy.

Currently, **AmeriCorps\*VISTA** members have helped establish additional community structures that foster youth and adult participation and address community initiatives. Members also work intensively to build leadership skills and capacity of youth throughout the community.

By building community leadership capacity and structures that support and validate youth voice, the CMY project will increase positive opportunities for youth and paths for civic engagement.





International Rescue Committee – Tucson  
5102 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tucson, Arizona  
(520) 319-2128  
[www.theIRC.org/tucson](http://www.theIRC.org/tucson)

# International Rescue Committee

## Tucson, Arizona

### Mission

Founded in 1933, the IRC is a global leader in emergency relief, rehabilitation, protection of human rights, post-conflict development, resettlement services, and advocacy for those uprooted or affected by violent conflict and oppression.

### Goal

The IRC Tucson helps refugees rebuild their lives in freedom in Tucson. We provide access to the tools of self-reliance: housing, job placement and employment skills, clothing, medical attention, education, English-language classes, community orientation, youth program, financial literacy, and immigration services to enable refugees and their families to reach self-sufficiency.

### History

IRC began in 1933 at the suggestion of Albert Einstein to assist Germans suffering under the policies of the Hitler regime. Currently, the IRC is present in 25 countries, providing emergency relief, relocating refugees, and rebuilding lives in the wake of disaster. IRC – Tucson has assisted thousands of refugees from Sudan, Cuba, Russia, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ethiopia, Iraq, and many other countries to rebuild their lives in freedom in Southern Arizona.



### IRC - Tucson Projects

AmeriCorps\*VISTA provides full-time members to enhance services for resettling refugees in Tucson. IRC – Tucson provides a small town feeling along with many opportunities for both outdoor and big city activities. VISTAs assist in capacity building, public awareness, forging new partnerships, enhancement and coordination of services, and other locally directed activities that help build stronger refugee communities.

### VISTA Positions with IRC - Tucson

#### *Youth Program Coordinator*

The Youth Program Coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing a youth program for local refugee youth, including a financial literacy component. The VISTA member coordinates with community partners, researches sustainability, and oversees quality programming for refugee youth with an emphasis on budgeting and financial health.

#### *Community Outreach Coordinator*

The Community Outreach Coordinator works with local universities, community organizations, and sister agencies to inform the Tucson community of the mission and projects of the IRC – Tucson. The VISTA member will work with volunteers and donors to secure additional support for Tucson programs.



## Assets for Arizona Institute™

Building Local Capacity to Expand Individual Development Accounts

<http://www.assetsaz.org/>

### **Arizona Family and Community Asset Development Project**

#### **Mission**

To build the infrastructure of Arizona organizations devoted to raising the quality of life among their constituencies through wealth building, the accumulation of assets, and community development programs, with the goal of strengthening families, communities, and economies.

#### **Vision**

We believe that with the assistance from the AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America), non-profit, faith based, and other community organizations will enhance their relationships with individuals, families, and communities interested in moving out of poverty by promoting, advocating, and creating wealth opportunities through asset building and community development programs.

#### **Values**

- We value the differences in each organization as well as individuals, families, and communities.
- We value the cultural and economic differences in each individuals, families, and communities.
- We value the contribution of each individual, families, and communities.

#### **Background**

In partnership, the Assets for Arizona Institute™, (a joint venture of Mesa Community Action Network, Inc., Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation and Newtown Community Development Corporation) and the Corporation for National & Community Service to staff the project so to improve community leaders' understanding of regional equity principles and practical application to asset building programs for individuals, families and community building. AmeriCorps VISTA leaders and members will focus on three primary areas:

- Increase the Institute's capacity to plan and promote regional equity principles amongst leaders in rural, urban and Native American communities;
- Provide technical assistance to build capacity of the organizations in establishing and implementing asset building programs;
- Improve an organizations capacity to successfully evaluate the effectiveness of asset building programs and determine if indeed they assist families to improve their economic circumstances.

Questions or interest, please email  
[reva@mesacan.org](mailto:reva@mesacan.org)



# The National Society for American Indian Elderly

## Phoenix, Arizona

### Mission

The mission of the National Society for American Indian Elderly is for all American Indian elderly to have access to services that will support them in their homes, as respected members of their communities and as keepers of their traditions.

### Goal

The goal of the National Society for American Indian Elderly is to improve the conditions and quality of life for on-reservation and rural American Indian senior citizens by supporting a network of tribally established and administered services.

### History

The National Society for American Indian Elderly (NSAIE) was established in 1987 as a 501(c)(3) organization. The Board of Directors consists of current and former Title VI directors, as well as the American Indian and Alaska Native elder nutrition program.

The NSAIE was created to address the problems associated with geographic isolation, high rates of poverty, health disparities, and limited access to services that mark the experience of Tribal elders.

To address these issues, we help develop funding and projects that are locally and culturally relevant.



### The NSAIE AmeriCorps\*VISTAs

The NSAIE AmeriCorps\*VISTAs are placed with Tribes and Tribal organizations throughout the United States. These placements are made with our member Tribes, which are spread across 25 states, and 65 Tribal organizations (some Tribal organizations are consortiums).

AmeriCorps\*VISTA volunteers serve in predominantly rural areas where the conditions for American Indian seniors are challenging, but where the project can have the most impact.

The NSAIE works with member Tribes to improve conditions and funding levels, in conjunction with AmeriCorps, providing VISTA members that help work to increase grant dollars, improve service quality, and expand services to a larger percentage of American Indian elderly.

The NSAIE VISTA member placements include Tribes in Arizona, and the main office is located in Phoenix.

In the past year, the project has worked with 84 Tribes to improve conditions for American Indian Elders.

**"Nothing but good shall come from it."**

"Nothing but good shall come from it" is from the oral narrative of the origin of the peace pipe, as transcribed from Black Elk, Oglala Sioux Holy Man, Black Elk Speaks (University of Nebraska Press, 1932).



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# Prescott College

## Prescott, Arizona

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### History

The Ripple Project is a student-initiated service learning organization at Prescott College. Started in 1997, the Ripple Project began as the Community Stewardship Center, aimed at addressing the needs of the college community surrounding concepts of service in an academic setting. Over the past ten years, the Stewardship Center took many different forms until it became revitalized by a group of students and incorporated into their senior projects at Prescott College. Their focus was on community collaboration with local organizations, as well as to provide resources to students looking for service learning opportunities abroad. Each year, Ripple has been slowly building a rapport with the community as well as a trusted student group among faculty and staff.

### VISTA PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Starting in the spring of 2007, the Ripple Project recruited two AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers to assist the Ripple project in becoming more integrated part of the academic culture of Prescott College.

Through community partnerships and faculty collaboration, the **VISTA project** aims to increase the capacity for service learning-based curriculum at Prescott College. We encourage students to create independent studies focused on working with non-profits in the community to affect change locally. We encourage faculty to design service learning components into their curriculum.

The Ripple Project will act as the primary resource for students in accessing service opportunities throughout Yavapai County. Both students and faculty can find out about on going projects through the online project database, as well as research upcoming projects through using the hard-copy files. We hope to anchor service learning into the fabric of Prescott College by offering scholarships to students to create their own service projects and to faculty to incorporate service learning into their curriculum.

We work as the connective tissue for many students and area organizations, and we provide organizations with Prescott College volunteers as well as enhance student's academic experience with valuable community service. Lastly, The Ripple Project hosts and sponsors various benefits and events that pertain to our mission, as well as provide grant writing resources and information to students.





City of Phoenix Head Start  
200 West Washington Street 19<sup>th</sup> floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85003  
602.262.4040  
<http://www.ci.phoenix.az.us/YOUTH/headstrt.html>

# Head Start POWER To Families

## Phoenix, Arizona

### Mission

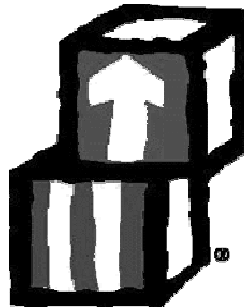
**Head Start** promotes self-sufficiency and well being by providing quality, comprehensive family and child development services. The overall goal of the Head Start Program is to bring about a greater degree of social competence in children of low-income families.



**City of Phoenix**  
Human Services Department

### Goal

**POWER (Providing Overall Wellness Education and Resources) To Families** is a community-based program dedicated to improving the health and wellness of families enrolled in a City of Phoenix Head Start Program. The primary goal is to provide parent education related to preventing disease and focusing on oral health, nutrition, asthma, and parenting skills.



### History

The **City of Phoenix Head Start** is administered by the Human Services Department, Education Division. Since its inception in 1965, the City of Phoenix Head Start has provided comprehensive child and family development services to more than 50,000 families. The program currently receives approximately \$21 million in federal assistance and serves more than 3,200 children each year.

**Head Start's VISTA project, POWER To Families**, was created to improve the health and well-being of the community. The main components of the POWER To Families Program include establishing partnerships within the community to provide resources for the program, and creating a volunteer network to educate Head Start parents and families in health prevention.

Parents are commonly identified as the most influential teacher in a child's life. As a result, POWER To Families was designed to educate parents and families on the major wellness issues Head Start children face: obesity, oral health, asthma, and effective parenting. POWER To Families hopes to increase knowledge in parents and lead to behavior change in children and families; and further yield a long-term improvement in health and wellness.

The **AmeriCorps\*VISTA** members will develop the program systems, including policies and procedures, and a volunteer management plan. They will also develop volunteer partnerships with local civic and service providers, colleges and universities, and faith-based organizations. The VISTA members will recruit and train community volunteers to work with Head Start families. Moreover, they will find resources necessary to make the project sustainable at Head Start.



# The Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault

## Tucson, AZ

### Mission

The Mission of the Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault is to reduce the trauma and incidence of sexual violence by providing treatment and promoting prevention of sexual abuse, incest, molestation, and rape. The Center will accomplish this through the provision of services including crisis intervention, specialized therapy, advocacy, prevention education, and professional training.

### History

The Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault has been providing services to victims and survivors of sexual assault and their families since 1973. The agency was started by a group of local women who observed that women were the victims of sexual aggression and sexual violence on the streets and in their homes, and that women were also victims of sexual harassment in schools and workplaces. The group began serving women in the community who stepped forward following public talks given by the grass-roots founders. In 1974, this grass-roots coalition formalized its operations and became a corporation under the name Coalition of Women's Agencies. A 24-hour crisis line was established at the University of Arizona Women's Center under the name Women Against Rape, and a volunteer structure was put in place.

In 1978, the Coalition of Women's Agencies and Women Against Rape united as the Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault, dba Tucson Rape Crisis Center. Over the years, the 24/7 crisis hotline, offering services in both English and Spanish, has remained a core service.

Other invaluable programs have been added, including professional mental health services, medical forensic examinations and evidence collection, community education, the Battered Immigrant Women's Task Force, and the Accessing Safety Program.

Today the Center is the largest provider of sexual assault services in the state of Arizona, and is the only organization in the state that provides the full continuum of sexual assault services.

The Center works in partnership with numerous other service providers (e.g., law enforcement and prosecution, hospitals, educational entities) to promote justice for victims and survivors and to promote healing from the trauma of sexual assault.

### Accessing Safety Project

**AmeriCorps\*VISTA** Member leads the *Accessing Safety Project: Promising Practices in Serving Crime Victims with Disabilities*

People with disabilities are statistically 2 to 3 times more likely to become victims of sexual violence than people in the general population.

The Center Against Sexual Assault, while already serving people with disabilities, recognized this disproportionate victimization rate and the special needs of the disability communities, and successfully pursued funding to address this issue. The Center was awarded a three-year grant from the Department of Justice/Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to provide services to people with disabilities.

The grant was awarded through SafePlace, a sexual assault and domestic violence center in Austin, TX, which is contracted through OVC to administer the funding. The Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault is one of ten sites out of nearly 100 submitted proposals across the country chosen by SafePlace to receive this funding. The project, while no longer funded through the grant, still supports sexual violence survivors with disabilities by:

- facilitating a Southern Arizona Sexual Assault Disability Coalition;
- developing a "Best Practice" model for working with sexual violence victims/survivors with disabilities by conducting an internal needs assessment and an external community-based needs assessment;
- expanding the ability of crisis and psychotherapy services to meet the needs of sexual violence victims/survivors with disabilities through a series of trainings;
- creating an outreach plan to increase sexual violence services to the disability community in southern Arizona; and
- creating and distributing a resource manual for people with disabilities.

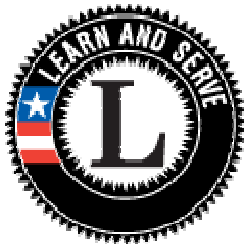


Programs funded and  
administered by Arizona  
Department of Education

Department of Education  
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Phoenix, AZ 85007  
(602) 364-4035

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Gerry Corcoran, Education Program Specialist  
FEA Liaison Federal Vocational Programs



## 2007 Learn & Serve Grantees

SCHOOL	CONTACT	PHONE	ADDRESS
Arizona Charter Academy	Melissa Holdaway	623-975-7120	16025 N. Dysart Rd. Surprise, AZ 85374
Casa Grande E.S.D.	Linda DeVore	520-836-7310	1460 N. Pinal Ave., Casa Grande, AZ85222
Central AZ Valley Ins. Of Tech	Mike Glover	520-423-1955	CAVIT,1729 N. Trekell Rd. St. 103, Casa Grande 85222
Chino Valley Schools	J. Watson-Frandsen	928-636-2458 X125	P.O. Box 225, Chino Valley, AZ 86323
City H.S.	Elliott Lax	520-623-7223	48 E. Pennington St., Tucson, AZ 85701
Crittenton Youth Academy	Jean Driescher	602-288-4523	715 W. Mariposa St., Phoenix, AZ 85013
Flowing Wells Ext. Programs	Martha Petty	520-887-2600	1661 W. Prince Rd. St 103, Tucson 85705
Ha:san Prep & Learning Sch.	David Valenciano	520-882-8826	Ha:san 1333 E. 10th St., Tucson, AZ 85719
Holiday Park Elementary	Deby Valadez	623-691-4500	3401 n. 67TH Ave. PHX,AZ 85033
Marana Career & Tech H.S.	Lynne Prouty	520-682-4773	11279 W. Grier Rd. St106, Marana, AZ 85653
Mesa Schools	Patrick Heck	480-472-8126	Red Mt. H.S.
Mesa Schools - Lehi Elem.	Linda Smock	480-472-5513	Lehi Elem 63 E. Main St. Mesa, AZ 85201
Mesa Schools - 7 Schools	Debby Bertolet	480-472-5985	1630 E. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204
Nothern AZ Rural Trust	Beth Britton	928-635-9645	PO Box 427 Williams, AZ 86046
Peoria Unified Sch. Dist.	Kristen Phelps	623-486-6000	PUSD, P.O. Box 39, Peoria, AZ 85380-0039
Pima Partnership	Heidi Bacon	520-326-2528	2525 E. Broadway St. 100, Tucson, AZ 85716
Prescott Valley Charter School	Ms. Connie Reveile	928-772-8744	P.O. Box 27348 Prescott Valley, AZ 86312
Sees H.S.	Amanda Jemsek	480-481-5051	Sees H.S. 1290 N. Scottsdale Rd. #117, Tempe 85281
Star-Painted Desert	Sandra Wilson	928-606-7419	145 Leupp Rd., Flagstaff, AZ 86004
Superior School	Melissa Holdaway	623-975-7120	16025 N. Dysart Rd. Sprise,AZ85374
Tolleson U.S.D.	Sari Nims	623-478-4062	TUHSD 9419 W. Van Buren, Tolleson, AZ 85353
Tucson U.S.D. -	Dan Perino	520-232-8430	TUSD Community Transition Program
Tucson U.S.D. - Howenstine	Jimmy Hart/Denise Camp	520-232-7300	Howenstine H.S.,
Wickenburg U.S.D.	Rose Garcia	928-684-6715	40 W. Yavapai St. Wickenburg, AZ 85390
Winslow U.S.D.	Suzanne Crumrine	928-288-8106	P.O. Box 580, Winslow, AZ 86047



## 2007 Learn & Serve Grantees

Contact	School	Phone	Address
Lynn Byrn Sue Sprankle Tanya Sivak	Esperanza Elementary	632-445-3704	20402 N. 15th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85027
Lynn Bladgett	Foothills Elementary	602-867-0591	15002 N. 32nd St. Phoenix, AZ 85032
Deby Valadez Jaye Thompson Liz Corralejo	Holiday Park Elemen.	623-691-4500	3401 N. 67th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85033
Maggie Kraft	Madison School Dist.	602-664-7839	5601 N. 16th St. Phoenix, AZ 85016
Mike File Phyllis Eaton	Mohave County Ed. Serv	928-753-0747	700 W. Beale St. Kingman, AZ 86401
Vivian Hunt Mary Conroy Mardy Backus	Desert Valley - Peoria	623-412-4751	12901 N. 63rd Ave. Glendale, AZ 85283
Mary Griffith	Santa Cruz Valley H.S.	520-466-2200	900 N. Main St. Eloy, AZ 85231
Sue McAulsan	Scottsdale U.S.D.	480-484-3500	2501 N. 74th St. Scottsdale, AZ 85257
Gretchen Roward	Rogers Elem. TUSD	520-584-7100	1010 E. 10th St. Tucson, AZ 85719
H.A. Kirchner	Yuma Union High Sch D	928-502-4681	3150 Ave. A Yuma, AZ 85364
Cheryl Wagner	Cebolla H.s.		
Debbi Bertolet	Adult Volunteer Trainer	480-472-5986	1630 E. Southern Ave. Mesa, AZ 85206

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## 2007 Commission Roster

**Elizabeth Archuleta**  
Flagstaff

**Christopher J. Hogan**  
Phoenix

**Liliana Ortega**  
Nogales

**Ruth Britton**  
Sierra Vista

**Ryan Johnson**  
Scottsdale

**Brenda Patterson**  
Kykotsmovi

**Gerry Corcoran**  
Phoenix

**Courtney Klein**  
Tempe

**Scott Somers**  
Mesa

**Irene Eldridge**  
Window Rock

**Gail Q. Knight**  
Phoenix

**Derrick Stinson, Vice Chair**  
Chandler

**Carlos Galindo-Elvira**  
Phoenix

**Catherine Land**  
Tucson

**Spencer Willie**  
Fort Defiance

**Gerri Goldtooth**  
Tuba City

**William Ludeke**  
Casa Grande

**Anissa Villegas**  
Phoenix

**Betsy Green**  
Tucson

**James Martinez**  
Flagstaff

**Non-Voting Members:**

**Lisa Guccione**  
State Program Director, CNCS  
Phoenix

**Daniel Gregory, Chair**  
Tucson

**Teresa Minnick**  
Phoenix

**Robin Hanson**  
Phoenix

**Mary Mitchell**  
Phoenix

